THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) Keeping in view the limited resources and huge requirement of the ever-increasing traffic, the Government of India intended to selectively involve the private sector for taking up certain types of schemes on National Highways. For this purpose suitable proposals were invited from the private sector with certain guidelines.

A few private parties have come forward with their proposals for financing only two highway projects, that too with certain issues of concessions, loans and guarantees etc. which are not acceptable to he Govt.

Guidelines on opening of new law colleges

928. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of law colleges in each State and Union Territory in the country at present;

(b) whether Government have recently issued any guidelines to the States with regard to the opening of new law colleges; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) A statement showing the number of Colleges in various States and Union Territories is attached (See below).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

S. No.	Name of State	No. of Law Colleges
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16
2.	Assam	10
3.	Bihar	17
4.	Gujarat	28
5.	Haryana	2
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	2
8.	Karnataka	35
9.	Kerala	5
10.	Madhya Pradesh	60
11.	Maharashtra	43
12.	Manipur	4
13.	Meghalaya	3
14.	Orissa	12
15.	Punjab	3
16.	Rajasthan	32
17.	Tamil Nadu	6
18.	Uttar Pradesh	41
19.	West Bengal	10
20.	Chandigarh	1
21.	Delhi	3
22.	Goa	2
23.	Pondicherry	1
	Total	337

Note: Colleges include University Departments and Centres also.

Recruitments in Indira Gandhi Open University, New Delhi

929. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that quite a few persons associated with the Indira Gandhi Open University, New Delhi project as Administrators and Senior advisers are either on deputation from their parent institutions or have already crossed the age of superannuation;

(b) if so, what was the criterion adopted by the Vice-Chancellor of Indira Gandhi Open University in recruiting this category of staff;

(c) whether there is any possibility of the Open University becomings operational and enrolling students in the near future; and

(d) what benefits, if any, have occurred to this Open University from Government's decision to keep it out of the purview of the University Grants Commission?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The main consideration in these appointments was that in the initial stages, it would be preferable to secure the services of experienced personnel, for short periods, either on deputation from Government Departments, Universities or other similar organisations, or those who have retired from such organisations in the recent past, rather than recruiting people on a permanent basis. The specialised knowledge and experience of the persons concerned were also important considerations.

(c) The University has already annouced two diploma programmes for which enrolment is open till the end of November, 1986.

(d) The University has yet to become fully operational. It is too early at this stage to make any assessment of the benefits accruing from keeping it outside the purview of the UGC.

Loss due to theft of Railway goods

930. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount of loss suffered by railways each year during the last three years due to theft of railway goods;

(b) what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether some officials of the railways were found involved in such thefts, if so, what are the details in regard thereto; and

(d) what action has been taken against the officers concerned and the measures taken to check the theft of railway goods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The amount of loss suffered by Railways due to theft of Railway goods in the year 1983 was Rs. 7.27 crores, in 1984 Rs. 5.45 crores and in 1985 Rs. 5.27 crores. In the year 1986 (upto August), it was Rs. 2.19 crores.

(b) The crime on the Railways is an extension of the general law and order condition prevailing in different States of the country through which Railway traverses.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The details in regard to Railway employees involved in thefts of Railway goods and action taken against them are as under:

Year	No. of Railway Employees arrested	No. of Railway employees		
		Prosecuted	Referred for Deptt. action	Pending Enquiries
1983	297	259	38	..
1984	246	211	35	..
1985	230	196	27	7
1986 (Upto August)	116	52	17	47